



JAMES A. NOYES, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"Enriching Lives"*

900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91803-1331  
Telephone: (626) 458-5100  
[www.ladpw.org](http://www.ladpw.org)

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
P.O. BOX 1460  
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **EP-4**

February 25, 2004

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: James A. Noyes  
Director of Public Works

### **SEMIANNUAL STATUS REPORT ON THE COUNTY INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Attached is the status report on the County Integrated Waste Management Plan for August 2003 through January 2004. Highlights of the report are provided below.

On September 30, 2003, your Board instructed Public Works to take the necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon from the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element's list of future landfill sites. In order for Elsmere Canyon to be removed from the Siting Element, the Five-Year Review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan and the Siting Element's amendment process must be sequentially completed. Public Works began the Five-Year Review in October 2003. The Five-Year Review and the Siting Element amendment process are anticipated to be completed in May 2004 and January 2006, respectively, assuming no major complications occur.

Public Works has prepared the 2002 Annual Report on the Source Reduction and Recycling Element, Household Hazardous Waste Element, and Nondisposal Facility Element. In addition, it has completed the 2002 Annual Report on the Los Angeles County Countywide Summary Plan and Siting Element Assessments. The Reports were forwarded to the California Integrated Waste Management Board on February 2, 2004.

The County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County has obtained all the necessary permits for the continued operation of the Puente Hills Landfill. On November 1, 2003, the Landfill began operating for an additional ten-year period under Conditional Use Permit No. 02-027-(4).

Each Supervisor  
February 25, 2004  
Page 2

Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI) continues its efforts to develop the City of Los Angeles portion of Sunshine Canyon Landfill. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board approved the new Waste Discharge Requirements Permit on December 4, 2003, for Phase I, Unit 2, of the City Landfill. The approved permit requires BFI to install a double-liner system that will exceed Federal standards. In addition, the Regional Water Board agreed to review, amend, or possibly revoke the permit if the Landfill is found to pose a risk to public health. BFI has appealed the double-liner system requirement to the State Water Resources Control Board.

Public Works and the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management Task Force submitted letters to the California Air Resources Board in August and September 2003, stating our concerns regarding their proposed regulation to reduce emissions of diesel particulate matter from solid waste collection vehicles. The Air Resources Board met in September 2003 and directed its staff to modify the regulation and notice the regulation for a 15-day comment period. The modification to the regulation would remove the provisions requiring jurisdictions to enforce the Air Resources Board requirements on waste haulers and reduce the jurisdictional reporting requirements to an annual submission of contractor information.

RWB:ma  
P:\sec\feb2004cvrmemo.doc

Attach.

cc: Chief Administrative Office  
Executive Office  
County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/  
Integrated Waste Management Task Force

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

**CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1989 (AB 939)**

- **2002 Annual Reports for the Los Angeles County Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan to the California Integrated Waste Management Board: Year 2002 Unincorporated Areas' Annual Report on the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE), Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE), and NonDisposal Facility Element (NDFE) and Year 2002 Annual Report Los Angeles County Countywide Summary Plan and Siting Element Assessments**

The 2002 Annual Report on the SRRE, HHWE, and NDFE, and the 2002 Annual Report on the Summary Plan and Siting Element have been completed by the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. The 2002 Annual Report filing date was extended to allow the State Board of Equalization time to release complete taxable sales data for 2002. The California Integrated Waste Management Board set the final filing date to submit the report as February 2, 2004. Public Works expects to submit both Reports to the Waste Board by this due date. A summary of the Reports will be forwarded to the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors shortly via a separate letter.

- **Five Year Review of the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan and the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element**

On September 30, 2003, the Board of Supervisors instructed Public Works to take the necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon from the Los Angeles County Countywide Siting Element's list of future landfill sites.

Section 41822 of the Public Resources Code requires the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (ColWMP), which was approved by the Waste Board in June 1999, to be reviewed and revised if necessary, every five years. The ColWMP includes the Source Reduction and Recycling Elements (SRREs), Household Hazardous Waste Elements (HHWEs), and the Nondisposal Facility Elements (NDFEs) prepared by each of the 89 jurisdictions in the County; the Countywide Siting Element (CSE); and the Summary Plan. The Five-Year Review is necessary to assure that the County's waste management practices remain consistent with the State's waste management hierarchy. In order for Elsmere Canyon to be removed from the CSE, the Five-Year Review of the ColWMP and the Siting Element's amendment process need to be sequentially completed.

Public Works began the Five-Year Review in October 2003. On October 16, 2003, Public Works provided an overview of the Five-Year Review process to the Los Angeles County Integrated Waste Management

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

Task Force since the Task Force must review the Five-Year Review Report prior to its submittal to the Waste Board. In November 2003, Public Works requested each city to complete a status survey as a part of the Five-Year Review Report. As of January 31, 2004, only 75 cities have responded. Public Works will continue its efforts to obtain the information from the remaining 13 cities. In addition, on January 28, 2004, the Waste Board provided Public Works with new guidelines for the preparation of the Report. Public Works is currently reviewing the new guidelines to determine its impact on the preparation of the Report. The Five-Year Review and the Siting Element amendment process is anticipated to be completed in May 2004 and January 2006, respectively, assuming no major complications occur.

- **Disposal Quantity Reporting**

The Solid Waste Disposal Quantity Reports for the second and third quarters of 2003 were received, compiled, and forwarded by Public Works in October 2003 and January 2004, respectively, to over 300 jurisdictions throughout the State which utilized disposal facilities located in the County of Los Angeles.

For the second quarter of 2003, jurisdictions in the County of Los Angeles disposed of approximately 3.25 million tons of solid waste at disposal facilities located in and out of the County of Los Angeles. This tonnage is approximately 0.1 million tons more than the quantity disposed in the second quarter of 2002.

For the third quarter of 2003, jurisdictions in the County disposed of approximately 2.69 million tons of solid waste at disposal facilities located in the County. This tonnage is approximately 6 thousand tons less than the quantities disposed in the third quarter of 2002.

In the second quarter of 2003, 571,770 tons of solid waste were exported by jurisdictions in the County to out-of-County landfills for disposal. This includes approximately 3,940 tons disposed in Kern County, 4,080 tons disposed in Kings County, 260,170 tons in Orange County, 260,940 tons in Riverside County, 677 tons in San Bernardino County, and 41,840 tons in Ventura County. Export data for the third quarter 2003 is currently unavailable.

Additionally, during the second and third quarters of 2003, disposal facilities in the County of Los Angeles received approximately 100,230 tons and 100,250 tons of waste, respectively, from neighboring counties compared to 95,160 tons and 98,530 tons received in the second and third quarters of 2002, respectively.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

In summary, during the first three quarters of 2003, it is estimated that jurisdictions in the County of Los Angeles disposed of approximately 9.1 million tons of solid waste at disposal facilities in and out of the County of Los Angeles. This is equivalent to an annual disposal rate of 12.2 million tons. In comparison to the 2002 disposal tonnage, the estimated 2003 tonnage is approximately 0.4 million tons less than the 2002 tonnage.

- **Solid Waste Collection System - Options Analysis Report Implementation**

Lennox Garbage Disposal District

Public Works, in concert with Supervisorial District 2, has successfully completed the implementation of the Lennox Garbage Disposal District—capping a two-year effort. The success of the District's operation is evidenced by the community's strong support, the improved appearance of the community (largely due to the uniform containers used for automated collection and the inclusion of bulky item pickups as part of the standard service), and an increase in recycling activities.

Model Franchise Agreement

Public Works, Health Services, and County Counsel, continue to work in developing a draft ordinance updating the County Code to authorize franchising, as well as a model franchise agreement that would be utilized in establishing future franchises. County Counsel is near finalizing its review of the draft ordinance and model franchise agreement. Public Works anticipates submitting the proposed County Code revisions to the Board for consideration by April 2004.

Once the County Code revisions have been adopted by the Board, Public Works, in consultation with Board offices, will be conducting a series of community meetings (on a community-by-community basis) in each proposed franchise area. At the conclusion of each round of meetings and based on community input, the agreements will be finalized and submitted to the Board for consideration.

## **REGULATIONS, ORDINANCES AND LEGISLATION**

- **Changes to State Disposal Reporting System Regulations-SB 2202**

As required by SB 2202, the Waste Board submitted a Report to the Legislature in early 2002 recommending changes to the State DRS to address its deficiencies. The Waste Board then proceeded to develop draft

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

revised regulations incorporating the recommendations in the Report. These draft regulations were first made available in November 2002.

The Waste Board released the second informal draft regulations for public comment in June 2003. On July 18, 2003, Public Works submitted comments expressing its opposition in that they are impractical, excessive, and unnecessarily burdensome to agencies in the amount of information required for an agency to provide to jurisdictions.

In November 2003, the Waste Board issued a formal notice releasing the revised regulations for a 45-day comment period. However, due to the Governor's Executive Order proclaiming a moratorium postponing the effective date of all proposed regulations, the Waste Board will be notifying the public and all stakeholders of the new start date of the 45-day comment period.

- **Rule 1133 - Emissions from Compost-Related Operations**

The purpose of this Rule is to regulate and reduce emissions from composting-related operations. The South Coast Air Quality Management District has separated the original draft Rule into Rules 1133, 1133.1, 1133.2, and 1133.3. The first three were approved on January 10, 2003, as previously reported.

The Air Quality Management District held a meeting on November 20, 2003, to discuss the implementation of Rule 1133.3 and the composting emissions testing study that was conducted. The study tested feedstock blends and aeration techniques to help determine Best Management Practices (BMPs) that can be used to reduce emissions. The main conclusions presented were that ammonia should not be a regulatory concern and that relatively higher carbon to nitrogen ratios in the composting materials would reduce emissions. The study also helped to analyze different sampling techniques. At the meeting, the Air Quality Management District stated that it has contracted with California State University, San Diego, to determine baseline emissions from the natural decay of green waste and to test composting methods to help develop additional BMPs to reduce emissions. This contract is to be completed in 2005. It was also stated that Rule 1133.3 would be adopted in 2005 after industry concerns have been addressed.

- **California Air Resources Board Regulation for Solid Waste Collection Vehicles**

Public Works and the Task Force submitted letters to the California Air Resources Board in August and September 2003 stating the County's concerns to the proposed regulation to reduce emissions of diesel particulate

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

matter from solid waste collection vehicles. The Air Resources Board met in September 2003 and directed its staff to modify the regulation based on the stakeholder input and to notice the regulation for a 15-day comment period.

The modifications to the regulation were to remove the requirement for jurisdictions to enforce ARB requirements on waste haulers and reduce the reporting requirements to an annual submission of contractor information. A preliminary draft of the regulation showed that the enforcement requirement was changed to instead require jurisdictions to include language in their contracts requiring haulers to comply with all State laws.

Some concerns regarding the regulation remain. As such, the Task Force has submitted comments on the preliminary draft regulation reiterating its position. Its comments included:

- Clarifying the definition of a contract determine if haulers having only a permit or license to operate in the jurisdiction are included
- Requesting the ARB to not encroach into the local governments' authority in setting waste collection rates
- Requesting a retrofit cost analysis be prepared by the ARB to assist municipalities in negotiating their contracts with waste haulers for the recovery of cost for complying with these regulations
- Removing the possible imposition of penalties of up to \$10,000 per day on municipalities

It is anticipated that the ARB will release the proposed regulation for the 15-day comment period shortly.

- **State Construction and Demolition Regulations**

The Waste Board has developed regulations to address construction and demolition debris (C&D) in two phases. Phase I covers the transfer and processing while Phase II covers the disposal of C&D. These regulations place facilities into regulatory tiers so that the level of oversight is consistent with the potential impact on public health and safety. Phase I was approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on July 10, 2003, and became effective on August 9, 2003.

On August 4, 2003, the Waste Board directed its staff to initiate an additional 15-day comment period for the Phase II regulations and to develop text alternatives for two issues. These issues were whether or not the definition of Inert Debris Engineered Fill Operations (IDEFO) should include the word "disposal" and the requirement for scales at these facilities. These types of operations can only accept specified inert materials which must be

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

compacted to allow for structural loading or other beneficial use. Industry representatives requested the word “disposal” be removed from the definition of Inert Debris Engineered Fill Operations because of the beneficial end use for these facilities. They also did not want scales to be required.

On August 28, the Task Force sent a letter to the Waste Board recommending revising the regulations to eliminate the word “disposal” from the definition for IDEFO and that criteria be developed based on facilities’ remaining capacity to determine which facilities should be required to install scales.

On September 17, 2003, the Waste Board approved the Phase II regulations. The approved version does not use the term “disposal” in the definition of IDEFO and does not contain a scale requirement. The regulations were approved by the OAL on December 26, 2003, and become effective on February 24, 2004.

- **Proposed County Construction and Demolition Debris Recycling Ordinance**

The proposed C&D Recycling Ordinance is intended to increase the diversion of construction and demolition debris generated in the County unincorporated areas by requiring certain permit applicants to divert 50 percent of their debris. The Ordinance will apply to projects that involve demolition or construction-related activities with an exemption for single-family homes and duplexes. This Ordinance is required as a part of the State-approved SB 1066 Time Extension for the County unincorporated areas to meet the State’s waste reduction mandate.

Public Works has worked with County Counsel to finalize the draft Ordinance. It includes changes recommended by the building industry. County Counsel management has provided comments and questions on draft ordinance which County Counsel and this Department are responding to. Public Works anticipates conducting an additional stakeholder meeting in March and submitting the Ordinance to the Board for final approval by spring 2004.

A Request for Proposals was issued for the Construction and Demolition Debris Education Program. This Program will educate stakeholders on the requirements of the Ordinance and assist them in complying. Proposals were submitted to Public Works on January 21, 2004. It is anticipated this contract will be submitted to the Board for approval along with the Ordinance by Spring 2004.

- **Solid Waste Management Fee Ordinance**



ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

An Ordinance amending the provisions of the Solid Waste Management Fee was adopted by the Board on April 22, 2003, and became effective on May 22, 2003, with an implementation date of June 1, 2003. Its purpose was to clarify the language of the Fee Ordinance with regard to the application of the Fee to haulers operating within the County of Los Angeles that collect solid waste for transportation to disposal sites or transformation facilities located outside the County. The Fee was and continues to be assessed on operators of in-County landfills and transformation facilities on each ton of waste disposed and on transfer stations which export waste out of the County for disposal. The amendment also revised the penalty structure to lessen the burden on facilities and others who fail to make Fee payments in a timely manner. In addition, it removed the provision for allowing payment of the Fee based on gross receipts making payment based on tonnage the preferred basis of payment.

The operator of two inert landfills has filed a lawsuit which alleges that the elimination of the option to pay the fee based on gross receipts results in a fee increase, and that there was a lack of proper notice. Public Works is working with County Counsel to resolve the matter. Public Works is working with other facility operators that previously paid by gross receipts to address any questions or concerns they may have regarding the implementation of the Ordinance.

- **Legislative Coordination Efforts – Task Force**

The Task Force continues to monitor the State Legislature regarding Bills impacting solid waste management in the County of Los Angeles.

**-- SB 20 (Sher, Chapter 526, 2003 Statutes)**

On September 25, 2003, SB 20 was chaptered into law. SB 20, which the Task Force supported, aids local governments in establishing programs that would recover, reuse, and recycle hazardous electronic scrap (commonly known as electronic waste). This would be accomplished by levying a recycling fee (between \$6 and \$10 depending on size) on each cathode ray tube (i.e., televisions and computer monitors) sold in the State. The Task Force supported SB 20 because it would strengthen the County's Countywide Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste Collection Program.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

**-- SB 537 (Romero) Amended January 20, 2004**

This bill (specifically aimed at the County of Los Angeles) requires the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (by July 1, 2004) to submit a report to the Legislature on the Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility project including the waste-by-rail system.

Previously (May 1, 2003 version which the Task Force opposed), this bill would have given veto power to any city council over all proposed materials recovery facilities, waste-by-rail facilities, and other similar facilities located in the County unincorporated areas (and operated by the Sanitation Districts) and located within one mile of the city. This would have had serious repercussions on the County's ability to manage waste since the County's land use decision could be overruled by such cities.

**PROPOSED NEW LANDFILLS-COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

- **Proposed Elsmere Canyon Landfill**

As discussed in the "Five Year Review" section in this report, the Board instructed Public Works to take the necessary steps to remove Elsmere Canyon from the Siting Element's list of future landfill sites. The five-year review and the Siting Element amendment process is anticipated to be completed in May 2004 and January 2006, respectively.

**DISPOSAL FACILITY EXPANSIONS/CLOSURES-COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

- **Puente Hills Landfill**

The Puente Hills Landfill is owned and operated by the Sanitation Districts. On November 1, 2003, the Landfill began operating for an additional ten-year period under Conditional Use Permit No. 02-027-(4).

The Sanitation Districts, in consultation with Public Works, has developed a plan for implementing the conditions of the CUP. As part of this implementation process, the Board of Directors of the Sanitation Districts adopted an Ordinance at its meeting of December 10, 2003, to implement a new reporting system at the Landfill to assist the County of Los Angeles in its efforts to comply with the State waste diversion mandates. This new reporting system will assist the County to more accurately determine the origin of wastes being disposed at Puente Hills Landfill. Additionally, as required by the Landfill's CUP, the Alternative Technology Advisory Subcommittee of the Task Force has been formed. This Subcommittee will assist in preparing a study funded by the Sanitation Districts which is aimed

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

towards identifying potentially viable alternatives to landfilling and incineration and in reviewing and implementing the recommendation of that study.

- **Antelope Valley Landfill**

Palmdale Disposal Company, owner of the Antelope Valley Landfill, requested the City of Palmdale to take the necessary steps to annex approximately 308 acres of unincorporated area lands containing the expansion portion of the Landfill. Subsequently, the City of Palmdale submitted an annexation application to the Local Agency Formation Commission for Los Angeles County for review and approval. The portion of the Landfill in the County unincorporated area was annexed to the City of Palmdale on August 27, 2003. This annexation allowed the operation of the Antelope Valley Landfill to be located wholly within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of Palmdale.

As of December 31, 2002, the remaining permitted capacity of the facility is approximately nine million tons. This includes the existing capacity in the City and the approved expansion in the County unincorporated area.

- **Sunshine Canyon Landfill**

Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc., continues its efforts to obtain all necessary permits for development of Phase I, Unit 2, of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill in the City of Los Angeles. The proposed Phase I would provide approximately 7.50 million tons of disposal capacity and an average daily disposal rate of 5,000 tons per day.

BFI filed a request for a new Waste Discharge Requirements Permit from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, for Phase I, Unit 2, of City Landfill. After conducting several hearings and requesting an in-depth study of incidents of cancer cases near the Landfill, the Regional Water Board approved the new Waste Discharge Requirements Permit on December 4, 2003. The approved permit requires BFI to install a double-liner system that will exceed Federal standards. In addition, the Regional Water Board agreed to review, amend or possibly revoke the Permit if the Landfill is found to pose a risk to public health. BFI has appealed the double-liner system requirement to the State Water Resources Control Board.

The County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning, in conjunction with the County of Los Angeles Departments of Parks and Recreation, and Health Services, Public Works and County Counsel, is drafting a new Conditional Use Permit for the proposed combined City/County Landfill

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

operation. Regional Planning has not set a date for public hearings due to several issues that still need to be addressed by BFI.

Public Works required BFI to provide a traffic study and mitigation measures for the intersections impacted by the landfill expansion. The study was provided and forwarded to the City of Los Angeles and Caltrans. As a result of a letter received from the City of Los Angeles with respect to traffic mitigation and County Counsel's advice regarding Caltrans comments, Public Works has requested updating the Supplemental Traffic Data Information Report. The revised report is expected to be submitted in mid-March 2004.

On July 10, 2003, BFI submitted a delineation assessment report to the Regional Water Board which evaluated the presence of VOCs in the subdrain liquids. The report concluded that the presence of VOCs was the result of landfill gas migration and subsequent contact between these gases and the subdrain liquids.

As a result, BFI has installed 40 new landfill gas extraction wells. The stockpiles that acted as preferred pathways for landfill gas migration to the subdrain system have also been removed. These measures are expected to help reduce gas pressures within the Landfill and decrease migration of gas from the Landfill to the underlying subdrain system. All subdrain liquids are now pumped to the leachate treatment facility.

- **Bradley Landfill**

Waste Management, Inc, the owner/operator of Bradley Landfill, filed an application for a revised Solid Waste Facility Permit with the City of Los Angeles' Local Enforcement Agency. The revision was for a ten-foot increase in the Landfill's elevation and an increase in capacity of approximately nine million cubic yards. The position of the City's LEA and Waste Management is that the ten-foot increase is not an actual increase, but rather addresses a clerical error in the previous CUP.

On April 9, 2003, the Waste Board concurred with the issuance of a revised SWFP for the proposed expansion. However, the expansion is inconsistent with the FOC granted by the Task Force on May 16, 1996.

On May 5, 2003, Waste Management submitted a request to the Task Force to grant a Finding of Conformance for the expansion of the Landfill. During its meeting of June 19, 2003, the Task Force reviewed this request but delayed its decision on the FOC until Waste Management submits additional information requested by the Task Force. The information relates to the

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

proximity of residential structures, the City of Los Angeles' regulations for protecting adjacent structures against intrusion of migrating subsurface landfill gas, and the Landfill's capacity, among other things.

The Task Force's request was formalized in a letter to Waste Management, dated July 10, 2003. After some delay, Waste Management submitted the requested information on December 16, 2004. The Task Force may again consider the FOC at its March 2004 meeting.

**PROPOSED MATERIALS RECOVERY AND COMPOSTING FACILITIES-  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

- **Puente Hills Landfill Material Recovery Facility**

The Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility, currently under construction, is a fully permitted MRF located on approximately 25 acres of the northwest portion of the Puente Hills Landfill site. The first phase of construction began in December 2001 and the facility is projected to be completed by the end of summer 2004. The facility is anticipated to be fully operational and open to the public by November 2004 and will target commercial waste loads.

The MRF is permitted to accept up to 4,400 tons per day of municipal solid waste and a maximum of 24,000 tons per week (4,000 tpd, six-day average). Residual waste from the MRF can be transported off site by rail.

- **Athens Material Recovery Facility (formerly United Waste Recycling and Transfer)**

Athens Services, owner/operator of the Athens MRF, is seeking approval from the Regional Planning Commission to further expand the facility to increase its operating capacity from 1,920 tpd to 8,500 tpd.

The Commission conducted a public hearing on the project on December 10, 2003. At the hearing, the Commission received testimony from County agencies and those in support of the project. The hearing was continued to January 26, 2004, which was held in the local Community. At this meeting, residents expressed concerns regarding traffic impacts, odor, noise, dust, vibration, and potential loss of property values. The hearing has been continued to March 17, 2004.

- **Coastal Material Recovery Facility and Transfer Station**

The Coastal Material Recovery Facility and Transfer Station is located in the unincorporated County area of Rosewood. The current Conditional Use Permit 91-026 granted to the facility in September 1991 has expired. A

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

request was submitted for a new Conditional Use Permit (01-223) that included an expansion of the facility. However, due to issues raised by the Department of Health Services, the applicant decided to request only a continuance of the existing use with a capacity of 500 tons per day. The Department of Regional Planning and County Counsel Office are currently working with Si-Nor, Inc., the facility owner/operator, on the details for an interim operating agreement which will allow the facility to continue operating until the application process is completed and a new Conditional Use Permit is issued.

- **Grand Central Recycling and Transfer Station**

The facility is an existing transfer station in the City of Industry. On June 22, 2000, the Planning Commission of the City of Industry granted Conditional Use Permit No. 99-2 approving construction of the facility. An Amendment to Conditional Use Permit 99-2 was adopted and approved by the City Planning Commission on October 9, 2003. The Amendment allows the facility to increase the daily tonnage capacity from 1,500 tons per day to a maximum of 5,000 tons per day. The facility owner/operator is in the process of obtaining the solid waste facility permit and other operating permits for the expanded operations.

**WASTE-BY-RAIL PROJECTS: MESQUITE REGIONAL AND EAGLE MOUNTAIN LANDFILLS**

The Sanitation Districts entered into Purchase and Sale Agreements in August 2000 on the only two fully-permitted rail haul landfills in California: the Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County and the Eagle Mountain Landfill in Riverside County. The Sanitation Districts closed escrow on the Mesquite Regional Landfill in December 2002. Due in part to pending Federal litigation, the Sanitation Districts has not closed escrow on the purchase of the Eagle Mountain Landfill.

The Mesquite Regional Landfill will be a cornerstone of the Sanitation District's System waste-by-rail to provide for the waste disposal needs of the County of Los Angeles well into the future after closure of the Puente Hills Landfill. The Mesquite Regional Landfill will ultimately be able to handle up to 20,000 tpd of municipal solid waste for approximately 100 years. The solid waste will be transported approximately 210 miles to the site via the Union Pacific Railroad main line, which extends from metropolitan Los Angeles to Glamis and then by a proposed 4.5-mile rail spur built to the site.

Closing escrow on the Mesquite Regional Landfill has allowed the initial waste-by-rail system development plans to move forward. The Sanitation

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

Districts have retained a consultant to prepare a comprehensive master plan for the development of the site including the Landfill and rail infrastructure. Work on this project began in Fall 2003 and will finish by Summer 2004. Following completion of the master plan, the Districts intend to pursue concurrent final design and construction of the facilities necessary to begin operation. The Mesquite Regional Landfill is scheduled to open for rail shipments of waste in 2009, consistent with the timetable in the new CUP issued by the County of Los Angeles Regional Planning Commission for the Puente Hills Landfill.

### **OUT-OF-COUNTY LANDFILLS**

- **El Sobrante Landfill Expansion-County of Riverside**

El Sobrante Landfill is owned and operated by Waste Management. The Landfill receives approximately 3,500 tpd of solid waste from the County of Los Angeles, an increase from 2,200 tpd reported in December 2002. The first half of cell seven of the expansion was completed in April 2003, and the remaining half was completed in June 2003. This expansion increased its overall capacity from nine to 109 million tons and increased its daily rate limit from 4,000 tpd to 10,000 tpd.

- **Orange County Landfills**

Orange County landfills are permitted for a combined capacity of 20,500 tpd, 13,500 tpd of which are used by Orange County jurisdictions. The remaining 7,000 tpd are available for out-of-Orange County waste disposal.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors has contracted 3,200 tpd, five days/week for out-of-County waste. The contract with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County expires in 2015 and is set at 1,000 tpd. During the first, second, third, and fourth quarters of 2003, daily tonnages averaging 955, 977, 978, and 916 tpd of solid waste, respectively, were imported from the County of Los Angeles.

The Orange County Integrated Waste Management Department has initiated an Environmental Impact Report process on a long-range Strategic Plan referred to as Regional Landfill Options for Orange County (RELOOC). The RELOOC Strategic Plan proposes expansion at the Olinda Alpha and Frank R. Bowerman landfills (two of the three County landfills). While no increase in daily tonnage is proposed, expansions would extend the life of the landfills by about 8 and ten years respectively.

- **San Diego County Landfills**

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

According to the latest available data, San Diego County exported 149,285 tons of trash to other California counties in 2002. These export tons included 5,995 tons sent to the Azusa Land Reclamation Company, Inc., and smaller quantities sent to Bradley Landfill, Commerce Refuse-to-Energy Facility, and Southeast Resource Recovery Facility. These amounts have varied from year to year and fluctuate as agreements are made with haulers and receiving jurisdictions.

According to the County of San Diego's Draft Siting Element, the San Diego Sycamore Landfill is a fully permitted Class III Landfill operated by the San Diego Landfill Systems and is owned by Allied Waste of North America. The Landfill currently processes 3,300 tpd of solid waste, 315 days per year, and consists of an area of 520 acres. Allied Waste has applied to the City of San Diego for a Planned Development Permit for two proposed increases in disposal tonnage. The Landfill is in the process of obtaining more acreage, with the first proposed increase from 3,300 tpd to 5,000 tpd occurring around 2005. The second proposed increase, in 2011, would increase the daily throughput to 12,000 tpd. These two proposals could result in an estimated permitted capacity of approximately 162 million cubic yards. If these expansion plans and estimated daily throughputs are approved, the life of Sycamore Landfill would be extended past 2020. At current permitted capacity, Sycamore Landfill would close in 2017.

**PUBLIC/YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND COUNTYWIDE/REGIONAL WASTE DIVERSION**

- **Environmental Defenders Program**

The Environmental Defenders Program, Public Works' environmental education effort for children in kindergarten through sixth grade, continues to reach out to students and parents in the County delivering important reduce, reuse, and recycle messages. The main component of the program consists of assemblies conducted at elementary schools throughout the County with actors portraying the Environmental Defenders characters teaching students about the Three R's. Other outreach efforts within the program include production of promotional items, attendance at community and youth events, and media promotions.

During this six-month reporting period, the Department began negotiations to select a new contractor for this program as the previous contract expired August 31, 2003. With Board approval, Public Works anticipates awarding a new contract by mid to late February 2004. Due to the expiration of this contract, only one school was able to host the assembly during the reporting period, allowing the Department to reach 500 students.



ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

The Environmental Defenders Program was also a recipient of the 2003 Governor's Environmental and Economic Leadership Award given by the State of California. The award is given to an exemplary educational program or curricula that raises children's awareness of, and involvement in, environmental issues. Public Works staff attended the awards ceremony in Sacramento on December 1, 2003.

- **Generation Earth**

The Generation Earth Program provides teacher training and curriculum for middle and high school and provides the opportunity for students to complete hands-on activities to enhance their knowledge about source reduction, recycling, illegal dumping, household hazardous waste, and stormwater/urban runoff issues.

The Contractor, TreePeople, conducted four professional development and three waste reduction workshops that introduce teachers to Generation Earth materials and provide extensive training in environmental service learning. More than 70,000 teens have logged on to the Generation Earth website with approximately 17,000 linking from the [www.kiisfm.com](http://www.kiisfm.com) website during this reporting period.

The Battle of the Schools, Generation Earth's campus waste reduction competition, will be held in Spring 2004. Staff has sent out 42 packets to high schools throughout the County to encourage them to participate in the competition.

- **Plan-It Earth Program**

Plan-It Earth is a newspaper-based learning program for sixth through ninth grade students that is co-sponsored by Public Works and the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.latimes.com). The Program features an eight-week subscription to the [Los Angeles Times](http://www.latimes.com), paid for by Public Works, to increase student knowledge about the environment through reading the newspaper, completing classroom exercises and participating in an environmental essay contest.

November 3, 2003, marked the beginning of the new program which will run through March 3, 2004. The in-classroom program includes language arts lessons with an environmental theme as defined by Times in Education and Public Works. Along with the essay writing contest, there are pre- and post-program student surveys, a teacher evaluation survey, and an awards presentation with U.S. Savings Bond prizes at the Los Angeles Times headquarters building.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

Newspaper ads were placed in the Los Angeles Times throughout the month of November promoting the program and flyers were sent to 97,000 teachers during the fall. To date, 347 teachers have enrolled in the program reaching approximately 18,200 students.

- **Countywide Smart Gardening Program**

The two-year contract with Environmental Science Associates ended on November 4, 2003. During the reporting period, ESA conducted Smart Gardening workshops at the County's 12 permanent demonstration centers where over 300 residents attended. There were also over 200 compost bins and over 100 worm bins sold at subsidized prices at these workshops.

On October 21, 2003, the Board approved the new contract for the program to BioContractors for \$749,800 for the next two years. BioContractors was the County's previous subcontractor for this Program. A full spring schedule of workshops will start early Spring 2004.

- **Integrated Waste Tire Recycling Program**

Public Works terminated the services of its contractor, Meyer Watkins Associates, in September 2003 at their request due to the passing away of the principal owner. Public Works issued a Request For Proposals to replace the contractor and received bids from three firms. The Peterson Group was awarded the contract by the Board and began work on December 1, 2003. During the reporting period, Public Works staff conducted a Waste Tire Collection Event in Westchester on October 25, 2003, which collected 2,031 passenger equivalent tires. In December 2003, the Waste Board awarded Public Works a \$50,000 Waste Tire Amnesty Day grant to conduct a joint waste tire collection event in the Antelope Valley with the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale in April 2004.

- **Los Angeles County Recycling Market Development Zone (LACRMDZ)**

The LACRMDZ is one of 40 zones that are part of the State's program to expand markets for recycled material generated within the State. The LACRMDZ is administered by the County of Los Angeles Community Development Commission with support and cooperation provided by Public Works. By mutual agreement, the program will be transferred from the CDC to Public Works. Public Works will integrate the program with its current recycling and outreach activities. The CDC will remain as a referral contact and provide sundry support. The transfer is expected to be completed in the Summer of 2004.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

The CDC is currently involved in the zone renewal process for the LACRMDZ. The renewal process for an additional ten-year term is anticipated to be completed by June 2004. Updated Market Development Plans and CEQA documents, as well as new City Council resolutions approving the renewal of the zone, are required from all jurisdictions.

Effective November 12, 2003, the methodology for calculating the interest rate charged for RMDZ loans was changed. The interest rate continues to be fixed for the term of each loan. The Waste Board will announce the interest rates semiannually (January and July), and the current interest rate for RMDZ loans is four percent.

- **Environmental Hotline (1-888-CLEAN-LA)**

Public Works' Environmental Hotline was established to provide a convenient means for County residents to obtain information on proper disposal of Household Hazardous Waste, used oil recycling, stormwater pollution prevention, illegal dumping, recycling, grasscycling, and other environmental issues. The hotline received approximately 35,000 telephone calls during this reporting period.

- **Environmental Resources Website ([www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com))**

The County's Environmental Resources Website, at [www.888CleanLA.com](http://www.888CleanLA.com), provides residents and businesses with valuable information about the County's waste reduction and recycling programs including Household Hazardous Waste, Smart Gardening, Residential Recycling, Youth Education, Tire Recycling, and Business Recycling Programs. The website also provides useful environmental-related information such as where to recycle computers, how to reduce junk mail, when you need to apply for an industrial waste permit, and seasonal information like Christmas tree recycling. Residents wishing to contact us are provided with an e-mail address, mailing address, hours of operation, and even a map to our headquarters building on every webpage in order to provide seamless delivery service. Environmental-related "Frequently Asked Questions" are updated regularly based on feedback from the public, updates to our programs, and new information.

The website is an efficient, low-cost way to provide information and services to residents and businesses free of charge, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Responses to e-mail inquiries from the public through the website are also provided on a timely basis, usually less than one working day. Pages on the website were viewed over 734,000 times in nearly 170,000 visits by approximately 115,000 residents, officials, and representatives of governments and organizations between August 2003 and January 2004.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

**COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREA WASTE DIVERSION  
AND PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

- **Residential Recycling Program**

The Program continued its public outreach by providing public service announcements in English and Spanish to television and radio stations in September. The PSAs reinforce the “Get Carried Away” theme to continue to encourage residents to make their best efforts in recycling.

During the holidays, to encourage Christmas tree recycling, a media release was issued and Christmas Tree Recycling brochures were provided to waste haulers serving the unincorporated areas for distribution to their customers. The brochures provided tree recycling dates and recycling tips for the holidays. Tree recycling information for the unincorporated areas and cities in the County was also provided through our website.

The Program has also conducted outreach at community events including the 27th Annual Simon Rodia Watts Tower Jazz Festival, Sabor de Mexico Lindo Downtown Street Festival, Rose Bowl Flea Market, and the Mariachi Festival. Technical assistance for multi-family complexes was also provided to help start recycling programs at the complexes.

The Program will be conducting narrowcasting outreach (outreach to targeted communities through displays at local shops), placement of billboards, and bus shelter advertisements within the coming months.

- **Business Recycling Program**

On May 20, 2003, the Board awarded the contract to Edelman Public Relations. The scope of work consists primarily of conducting site visits to assist businesses in developing on-site recycling programs, printing and distributing brochures and promotional postcards, maintaining an existing database of business contacts and waste information, and conducting telephone surveys to measure program effectiveness.

Edelman has worked with InfoUSA to obtain a new database of approximately 22,000 businesses for the unincorporated areas. A team of Business Recycling Consultants has been hired and trained by Edelman to conduct site visits. Site visits to businesses began in early August and through the end of December 2003, 217 site visits had been completed. The Program’s telephone hotline continues to provide businesses direct access to assistance for developing waste reduction and recycling programs. The

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

“Recycler Locator” feature on the website ([www.businessrecycling.com](http://www.businessrecycling.com)) is widely used and has been updated with the most current list of recyclers.

## **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND SPECIAL WASTE PROGRAMS**

- **Countywide Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste Collection Program**

During the reporting period, a media plan was in place providing newspaper advertising, community announcements, and correspondence to County of Los Angeles and city officials to promote the 27 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events (HHW) held in the Cities or unincorporated communities of: Norwalk, Whittier, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, South Gate, Glendora, Carson, Burbank, Alhambra, South Pasadena, Covina, Huntington Park, Beverly Hills, Rosemead, Palmdale, Acton, Monrovia, Lynwood, Bellflower, El Segundo, Monterey Park, Lomita, Malibu, Laverne, Paramount, Hermosa Beach, and Cudahy. Also as part of this program, the City of Los Angeles conducted Hazmobile collection events in the communities of Granada Hills, Reseda, and South Los Angeles. During the reporting period, the City of Los Angeles’ four permanent collection centers continued to collect HHW and Electronic Waste from the all Los Angeles residents.

From August 1, 2003, through January 31, 2004, 269,024 gallons of HHW and 587,203 pounds of electronic waste were collected at the County events from 28,151 car loads.

In addition, out of 16,578 car loads, 201,234 gallons of HHW and 589,263 pounds of electronic waste were collected at the City of Los Angeles events and collection centers from August 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003.

- **Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste Public Education Program**

The County continues to implement the Household Hazardous Waste/Electronic Waste Public Education Program to inform residents of the proper management of HHW and E-waste products. This public education program addresses the reuse of HHW/E-waste products, the use of alternative products, and proper disposal of HHW and E-waste. Public education about these issues was provided to residents at community events; presentations to businesses and community groups; and by working with local retailers and churches in the vicinity of the collection events to promote the program and provide information.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

- **Antelope Valley Permanent HHW Facility**

The Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, Public Works, County Counsel and Waste Management continue to work on the development of a permanent HHW facility for the Antelope Valley.

Working Group meetings were placed on hold from mid-November to January while the Working Group waited for a legal response from the Waste Board regarding whether the State would allow the facility to be owned by Waste Management. The Waste Board did not object to such an arrangement provided that, among other things, the Cities transfer ownership of the completed facility to Waste Management, for a fair market value. The next Working Group meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2004.

- **Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Week**

The 2004 Antelope Valley Environmental Pride Week event has been scheduled for April 2004. Public Works, in coordination with the Cities of Lancaster and Palmdale, Waste Management, and the Antelope Valley Illegal Dumping Task Force, will be conducting a series of events to promote environmental awareness including, but not limited to, household hazardous/electronic waste collection events, waste tire collection events, composting workshops, clean-up projects, free trash collection events at designated locations, and free trash disposal at a local landfill.

- **Rubberized Asphalt Concrete Technology Center**

The County operates the Center in cooperation with the Waste Board to reduce waste tire disposal by promoting use of rubberized asphalt concrete constructed with recycled tires. The Center provides education, training, and consultation on the technology and use of RAC in road rehabilitation. The Center offers \$12,500 grants to agencies in California for quality control inspections of RAC projects. In December 2003, the Center awarded grants totaling \$22,600 for using RAC on street improvement projects to the Cities of Martinez, San Marino, Fillmore, Seal Beach, and Lemon Grove for street improvement projects using RAC. In October 2003, the Waste Board renewed its work agreement with the Center through December 2004 and provided funds of \$450,000 for its operations.

In this reporting period, the Center conducted 10 workshops to educate cities, agencies, and various professional organizations on the design, construction, and inspection of RAC. Cities included Manhattan Beach, La Palma, Lompoc, Monterey Park, Fresno, and Palmdale. Organizations included the Los Angeles MTA, City and County Engineers Association,

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

APWA Ventura County Chapter, and the County Engineers Association in Monterey Park. In addition, the Center co-sponsored seminars in San Diego and Fresno with the Rubberized Pavement Association, attended by public works agencies from 12 cities and 4 counties. The seminars were rated "very good" to "excellent" in content, presentation, and speaker knowledge. To further establish contacts with other agencies and promote RAC, the Center hosted a booth at various conventions, including the League of California Cities Annual Conference & Expo in Sacramento.

- **Used Motor Oil Recycling Program**

The Used Motor Oil Public Education program continued with outreach conducted in Chinese funded by a State Used Oil Grant. Two additional collection events were held during this reporting period. The first event was held on August 21, 2003, in Rowland Heights. Approximately 640 residents participated with a total of 850 gallons of used oil and 180 oil filters collected. The last event was held on October 18, 2003, in the City of Monterey Park. A total of 1,000 gallons of used oil and 240 oil filters were collected. A direct-mail piece written in Mandarin Chinese was sent to residents in the areas surrounding the events to encourage participation.

A media campaign ran through mid-November in the following newspapers and radio stations reaching Chinese communities: China Press, International Daily News, Sing Tao Daily, Chinese Daily News and AutoWorld magazine. Radio spots ran on AM 1300/1370 with a used oil message and the County's environmental hotline number for residents to call. A Mandarin Chinese language hotline was established to handle calls. This Hotline received approximately 560 calls. Bus shelters, flyers, and billboards were also used in promoting the Chinese media campaign. The bus shelter posters and billboards were placed around the San Gabriel Valley from July 21 through November 9, 2003. Magazine ads in AutoWorld ran continuously for 12 weeks. Various cities also posted information about the events on their website or City newsletter.

Annual Reports for FY 2002-03 for the 7th and 8th Used Oil Block Grant Cycles were submitted to the State in August 2003. Oil collection events were held August 9, 10, and 17, for the general market campaign. The event on August 9 was held in the City of Los Angeles. This event targeted the English-speaking Hispanic population. The Spanish-language radio station KWKW was in attendance to promote and encourage used oil recycling. Flyers announcing the event were distributed to businesses and residents in the area. A total of 130 gallons of oil and 15 oil filters were collected. The August 10 and 11 events held in the Cities of San Fernando and Santa Fe Springs, and in conjunction with KPWR 106 FM and the Galaxy soccer organization, collected a total of 185 gallons of used oil and nine oil filters.

ATTACHMENT  
Semi-Annual Status Report On  
The County Integrated Waste Management Plan  
August 2003 Through January 2004

Public Works was awarded the 9th Cycle Used Oil Block Grant in the amount of \$388,278 for FY 2003-04. The Block Grant funds will be used for the Los Angeles County Regional Campaign.

- **Recycled Paper Purchasing Program**

County departments continue to purchase 30 percent post-consumer recycled content paper using the County's cooperative purchasing program which began on March 6, 2000. The program enables governmental entities to join the County in purchasing recycled bond paper. Through September 2003, 25 cities in the County are participating in the program and have purchased more than 630,000 cases of paper with a cost savings of approximately \$465,000.

**OTHER SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT/RECYCLING ISSUES**

- **Knowaste's Disposable Diaper Recycling Technology**

Per the Board's direction on July 18, 2000, Public Works monitors Knowaste technology for recycling disposable diapers. The City of Santa Clarita and Knowaste completed their Diaper Recycling Pilot Program over a 10-month period that concluded in July 2003. The program collected 43 tons of disposable diapers (tonnage includes human waste) from over 200 families. However, just 3.6 tons of fibers from the diapers were recycled, while 7 tons of fibers were unsuitable to be recycled. The City Council decided the program would not be cost-effective enough to continue and terminated the program in September 2003.

RWB:ma  
P:\sec\feb04Rpt.doc